

IN THE CLAIMS

1 Claim 1: (original) A method for processing import/export transactions over a
2 network, comprising the steps of:

3 inputting invoice data associated with an import/export transaction at a first
4 terminal coupled to the network, wherein the invoice data includes a product
5 identifier identifying a product to be transported in the import/export transaction;

6 transferring the invoice data from the first terminal to a server hosting a
7 database of product identifiers and tariff classification information particular to each
8 of the product identifiers;

9 matching the product identifier identifying the product to the product
10 identifiers in the database; and

11 outputting a data record in response to the matching step, wherein the data
12 record includes tariff classification information associated with the product identifier
13 identifying the product.

1 Claim 2: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of outputting
2 the data record includes the step of e-mailing the data record to a second terminal
3 coupled to the network.

1 Claim 3: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of outputting
2 the data record includes the step of downloading the data record to a second terminal
3 coupled to the network.

1 Claim 4: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of outputting
2 the data record includes the step of printing the data record.

1 Claim 5: (original) The method as recited in claim 3, wherein the data record is
2 downloaded in response to access of the data record in the server by a second
3 terminal using a web browser.

1 Claim 6: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the inputting step
2 further comprises the step of:

3 electronically transmitting the invoice data from the first terminal to the
4 server.

1 Claim 7: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the inputting step
2 further comprises the step of inputting the invoice data into a web site associated with
3 the database.

1 Claim 8: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 updating the database from a third terminal coupled to the network.

1 Claim 9: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 recording results of the matching step into a transaction database hosted by the server.

1 Claim 10: (original) A system for processing import/export transactions over a
2 network, comprising:

3 means for inputting invoice data associated with an import/export transaction
4 at a first terminal coupled to the network, wherein the invoice data includes a product
5 identifier identifying a product to be transported in the import/export transaction;

6 means for transferring the invoice data from the first terminal to a server hosting a
7 database of product identifiers and tariff classification information particular to each
8 of the product identifiers;

9 means for matching the product identifiers identifying the product to the
10 product identifiers in the database; and

11 means for outputting a data record in response to the matching of the product
12 identifier identifying the product to the product identifiers in the database, wherein
13 the data record includes tariff classification information associated with the product
14 identifiers identifying the product.

1 Claim 11: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the outputting means
2 includes a means for e-mailing the data record to a second terminal coupled to the
3 network.

1 Claim 12: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the outputting means
2 includes a means for downloading the data record to a second terminal coupled to the
3 network.

1 Claim 13: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the outputting means
2 includes a means for printing the data record.

1 Claim 14: (original) The system as recited in claim 12, wherein the data record is
2 downloaded in response to access of the data record in the server by the second
3 terminal using a web browser, wherein the network is the Internet.

1 Claim 15: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the inputting means
2 further comprises:
3 means for electronically transmitting the invoice data from the first terminal to
4 the server.

1 Claim 16: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the inputting means
2 further comprises means for inputting the invoice data into a web site associated with
3 the database.

1 Claim 17: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, further comprising:
2 means for updating the database from a third terminal coupled to the network.

1 Claim 18: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, further comprising:
2 means for recording results of the matching step into a transaction database
3 hosted by the server.

1 Claim 19: (original) A system for processing import/export transactions over the
2 Internet, comprising:

3 a server, coupled to the Internet, hosting a database of product identifiers and
4 corresponding import/export transaction information;

5 a first computer, coupled to the Internet, operable for uploading invoice data,
6 containing at least one product identifier associated with an import/export item, to the
7 server over the Internet;

8 a program operable for matching the at least one product identifier with a
9 product identifier contained in the database of product identifiers and outputting a
10 data record including import/export transaction information corresponding to the at
11 least one product identifier, and

12 a second computer, coupled to the Internet, operable for accessing the data
13 record over the Internet.

1 Claim 20: (original) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the first computer
2 uploads the invoice data via a web link associated with the server.

1 Claim 21: (original) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the second computer
2 accesses the data record via web link between the second computer and the server.

1 Claim 22: (original) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the data record is
2 transformed into a customs report for transmittal to a customs entity.

1 Claim 23: (original) The system as recited in claim 19, further comprising:
2 a program operable for updating the database.

1 Claim 24: (currently amended) A computer program product ~~for storage~~ stored on a
2 computer readable medium and operable for processing an import/export transaction
3 over the Internet, comprising:

4 first programming steps operable for establishing a first web page, accessible
5 by a first user at a first terminal coupled to the Internet using a web browser, that
6 permits the first user to input invoice data associated with an import/export
7 transaction, wherein the invoice data includes a product identifier for a product to be
8 transported in the import/export transaction;

9 second programming steps operable for matching the product identifier
10 included in the invoice data to a database of product identifiers and corresponding
11 tariff classifications resulting in an output of a data record containing a tariff
12 classification matched with the product identifier identifying the product to be
13 transported in the import/export transaction; and

14 third programming steps operable for establishing a second web page,
15 accessible by a second user at a second terminal coupled to the Internet using a web
16 browser, that permits the second user to output the data record through the second
17 web page.

1 Claim 25: (original) The computer program product as recited in claim 24, wherein
2 the database is stored on a server coupled to the Internet.

1 Claim 26: (original) The computer program product as recited in claim 24, further
2 comprising:

3 fourth programming steps operable for establishing a third web page,
4 accessible by a third user at a third terminal coupled to the Internet using a web
5 browser, that permits the third user to update the product identifiers and
6 corresponding tariff classifications in the database.

1 Claim 27: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
2 product identifier is unique to a particular company.

1 Claim 28: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 27, wherein the
2 import/export transaction is associated with the particular company.

1 Claim 29: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first
2 terminal is coupled to the server over the network.

1 Claim 30: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
2 matching step results in the tariff classification information being assigned to the
3 product identifier included in the invoice data.

1 Claim 31: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1 further
2 comprising the step of:

3 modifying the database to update the product identifiers and/or tariff
4 classification information particular to each of the product identifiers to ensure an
5 accuracy of associations between the product identifiers and corresponding tariff
6 classification information.

1 Claim 32: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
2 invoice data lists products to be imported/exported, and each product is identified
3 with a product identifier.

1 Claim 33: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the tariff
2 classification information is a harmonized tariff number for a particular country.

1 Claim 34: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of creating a customs entry report for the import/export
3 transaction.

1 Claim 35: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 34, wherein the
2 customs entry report is sorted by tariff numbers.

1 Claim 36: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 34, further
2 comprising a step of creating a master report to facilitate the import/export
3 transaction.

1 Claim 37: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of displaying a harmonized tariff schedule in a split screen during
3 the matching step.

1 Claim 38: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
2 database of product identifiers and tariff classification information is customized on a
3 per customer basis to ensure that the matching of the product identifiers with the tariff
4 classification numbers is in compliance with local customs regulations.

1 Claim 39: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein at least
2 one product identifier is unique to a particular company.

1 Claim 40: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 39, wherein the
2 import/export transaction is associated with the particular company.

1 Claim 41: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the first
2 computer is coupled to the server over the Internet.

1 Claim 42: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the
2 matching program results in the import/export transaction information being assigned
3 to the product identifier included in the invoice data.

1 Claim 43: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, further
2 comprising:

3 a program operable for modifying the database to update the product
4 identifiers and/or import/export transaction information corresponding to each of the
5 product identifiers to ensure legal compliance of associations between the product
6 identifiers and corresponding import/export transaction information.

1 Claim 44: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the
2 invoice data lists products to be imported/exported, and each product is identified
3 with a product identifier.

1 Claim 45: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the
2 import/export transaction information is a harmonized tariff number for a particular
3 country.

1 Claim 46: (previously presented) The computer program product as recited in
2 claim 24, wherein the product identifier is unique to a particular company.

1 Claim 47: (previously presented) The computer program product as recited in
2 claim 46, wherein the import/export transaction is associated with the particular
3 company.

1 Claim 48: (previously presented) The computer program product as recited in
2 claim 24, wherein the matching steps result in the tariff classifications being assigned
3 to the product identifiers included in the invoice data.

1 Claim 49: (previously presented) The computer program product as recited in
2 claim 24, wherein the tariff classifications are harmonized tariff numbers for a
3 particular country.

1 Claim 50: (previously presented) The computer program product as recited in
2 claim 24, wherein the database of product identifiers and tariff classifications is
3 customized on a per customer basis to ensure that the matching of the product
4 identifiers with the tariff classifications is in compliance with local customs
5 regulations.

1 Claim 51: (previously presented) A method for importing products into a country,
2 comprising the steps of:

3 creating an invoice representing a purchase of the products by a customer
4 resident within the country, wherein the invoice lists the products by product number;
5 uploading invoice data over a network to a server from a workstation coupled to the
6 server over the network, wherein the invoice data is an electronic version of the
7 invoice;

8 creating a database of customer products and tariff classification information,
9 wherein the database is accessible by the server, wherein the database comprises
10 product numbers for products particularly associated with the customer, wherein the
11 product numbers are each assigned a harmonized tariff number particular to the
12 country;

13 comparing the product numbers in the invoice data to product numbers in the
14 database to compile a customs entry report where the product numbers in the invoice
15 are each assigned a harmonized tariff number;

16 using the customs entry report to create a master report to facilitate entry of
17 the products into the country, wherein the master report includes the harmonized
18 tariff numbers assigned to each of the product numbers; and

19 sending the master report to a government customs office.

1 Claim 52: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 50, further
2 comprising the step of updating the database to ensure that the associations of the
3 harmonized tariff numbers with the customer's product numbers are in compliance
4 with the country's customs regulations.

1 Claim 53: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 50, further
2 comprising the steps of:

3 importing the products into the country; and
4 facilitating passage of the products through the country's customs office using the
5 master report created as a result of the comparing step.

Claim 54: (cancelled)

1 Claim 55: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of maintaining compliance of the database with current tariff
3 regulations.

1 Claim 56: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of importing the product into a country using the data record.

1 Claim 57: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of exporting the product into a country using the data record.

1 Claim 58: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 55, wherein the
2 data record is used to facilitate the importing of the product into the country.

1 Claim 59: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 31, wherein the
2 data record is used to create a customs entry report to facilitate the importing of the
3 product into the country.

1 Claim 60: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of linking to a harmonized tariff schedule in a split screen with
3 the data record.

1 Claim 61: (previously presented) A method comprising the steps of:

2 inputting invoice data associated with an import/export transaction at a first
3 terminal coupled to a computer network, wherein the invoice data includes a product
4 identifier identifying a product to be transported in the import/export transaction;

5 transferring the invoice data from the first terminal to a server hosting a
6 database of product identifiers and tariff classification information particular to each
7 of the product identifiers;

8 matching the product identifier identifying the product to the product
9 identifiers in the database; and

10 outputting a data record in response to the matching step, wherein the data
11 record includes tariff classification information associated with the product identifier
12 identifying the product;

13 importing a product into a country using the data record.

1 Claim 62: (previously presented) A method for importing products into a country,
2 comprising the steps of:

3 creating an invoice representing a purchase of the products by a customer
4 resident within the country, wherein the invoice lists the products by product number;
5 uploading invoice data over a network to a server from a workstation coupled to the
6 server over the network, wherein the invoice data is an electronic version of the
7 invoice;

8 creating a database of customer products and tariff classification information,
9 wherein the database is accessible by the server, wherein the database comprises
10 product numbers for products particularly associated with the customer, wherein the
11 product numbers are each assigned a harmonized tariff number particular to the
12 country;

13 comparing the product numbers in the invoice data to product numbers in the
14 database to compile a customs entry report where the product numbers in the invoice
15 are each assigned a harmonized tariff number;

16 using the customs entry report to create a master report to facilitate entry of
17 the products into the country, wherein the master report includes the harmonized tariff
18 numbers assigned to each of the product numbers;

19 sending the master report to a government customs office;

20 importing the products into the country; and

21 facilitating passage of the products through the country's customs office using
22 the master report created as a result of the comparing step.

1 Claim 63: (new) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the matching step is
2 performed by a software algorithm running in the server.

1 Claim 64: (new) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the matching step
2 produces the tariff classification information associated with the product identifier
3 identifying the product.

1 Claim 65: (new) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the matching step is
2 performed by a software algorithm running in the server.

1 Claim 66: (new) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the matching step
2 produces the tariff classification information associated with the product identifier
3 identifying the product.

1 Claim 67: (new) The method as recited in claim 61, wherein the matching step is
2 performed by a software algorithm running in the server.

- 1 Claim 68: (new) The method as recited in claim 61, wherein the matching step
- 2 produces the tariff classification information associated with the product identifier
- 3 identifying the product.